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HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

The Highlander

FREE

Thursday **February 27 2014** | Issue 123

INSIDE: MEDICAL MARIJUANA GROW-OP COMING TO HALIBURTON - SEE PAGE 7



Photo by Mark Arike

Over 100 people erupt with excitement in the Pinestone Resort's Highlanders Bar at the end of the men's gold medal hockey game, which saw Team Canada and Matt Duchene defeat Sweden 3-0. See page 15 for full story.

Angry residents blast Armatec president

By Sue Tiffin
Staff writer

An information session about a proposed military testing site in Harcourt had many in a crowd of more than 300 residents becoming hostile and aggressive on Feb. 22. The outraged residents filled the Harcourt

Community Centre and interrupted the meeting initiated by representatives of Armatec Survivability with heckling and jeering. They said they are not planning to back down against a proposal to build military testing facilities on 2,300 acres of land by the manufacturers of upgrades for armoured vehicles and tanks. The sale of the

property to Armatec is dependent on special rezoning being approved by council.

"Demand to have your voice heard," said one local resident who urged participants at the meeting to talk to their council members. "We're going to fight [Armatec] tooth and nail, because it's our right to do so."

The Ontario-based company intended to

make a presentation detailing the company's plans for the site before offering residents the chance to ask questions one-on-one with available team members, including Karl Pfister, president and CEO. Residents reacted angrily to this idea and forced a forum in which they could ask their

See "Not" on page 2

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Highlander news

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Not a huge nuisance: Warden Burton

Continued from page 1

questions in a group setting instead.

"I think this was a great meeting," said property planner Heather Sadler of Ecovue Consulting who spoke on behalf of Armatec during the two-hour long discussion. "We knew it was going to be controversial, we knew it was going to be heated. It wasn't quite as bad as it could have been.

People are passionate. We understand that and what we wanted to do all along was to get them the information they need to make decisions and to understand," she said.

Some residents – many seasonal residents who traveled to the area in order to attend the information session – were near tears as they asked questions regarding the site's proposed impact on the ecosystem, the peacefulness of the area, and the value of their property.

One woman yelled that Armatec would ruin lives. Another brought up a new world order. At times the meeting became a shouting match, and Sadler reminded residents that arguments within the group would not be tolerated.

"You've already divided this community," yelled one participant, referring to the split of opinion.

Some residents said they supported the business Armatec would bring to the area, including a minimum of five jobs for local residents, and an influx of hotel and restaurant usage from out-of-town workers. They said the testing done on the military site wouldn't be any louder than leisure activities or late-night get-togethers already on the lake, where noise travels.

While opponents said they supported the work that Armatec does to ensure the safety of troops by testing durability of military equipment, they argued that they didn't want the testing to happen in their own backyard. RE/MAX sales agent Dianne Fitzpatrick told Armatec reps that she had found other suitable, isolated, and cheaper property for their use, but company representatives explained that the 2,300 acres of land east of Benoir Lake and north of Elephant Lake had tested perfectly in terms of topography needed for testing and was big enough to prevent noise from reaching nearby residents.

"Everyone I talked to was really impressed with Karl, the president. I think he was very alarmed at all the upset. I felt really bad for him," said Fitzpatrick, who gave the president details of the similar property she found after the meeting. "It's not about the company at all. It's about location, location, location."

The tank armour manufacturers said they initiated the meeting to assuage the community's fears that the military testing site would be disruptive to the local area, after articles regarding the negative reaction to the proposed development were published in the Toronto Star and on Yahoo. The Star comments section included more than 100 reactions to the proposed official plan and zoning bylaw amendments that would allow the land to be used for a mobility test area, storage facility for explosive materials, administrative area, and an explosives testing area with a bunker.

Armaterc representatives ensured residents that the area would be regulated by federal guidelines and testing to prevent noise with a yearly maximum of 30 explosions and 120 mobility tests during which armoured vehicles would run along a track on the property.

"When people asked how we would benefit from the facility, [representatives] kept saying that it wouldn't be very loud," said Fitzpatrick. "That's not a benefit."

Residents ridiculed Sadler when she explained that the tanks were stealth, and that area deer would be 'shooed away' from danger. Pfister said that test protocol ensured the safety of wildlife.

"Last year, a bird landed on the test site," he said. "We had to stand down until the bird decided to fly away."

Residents were persistent with questions about the future of their property values, explaining that buyers would be turned off of a cottage next to a military testing site. Steve Franzese of Toronto said that some renters had already turned away from his cottage on Benoir Lake.

"Experts who see stigmatized land can say that this will affect it," said Fitzpatrick, who knows 150 of the residents in the area of the proposed testing site. "The market values will decline and it will be hard to get a sale. The price will

have to be low enough for the people to deal with the possible stigmatization."

"We are going to demonstrate that there's not going to be a negative impact," said Sadler. "There's no noise. There're no bombs going off, no animals being killed, no tanks going up and down the roads. I honestly don't know why you'd think that your property value is going to be damaged." "Do you want to buy mine?" yelled one heckler.

"I've invested my life

[in] this," said another audience member. "This is a part of my retirement. You're taking my money away."

Armaterc representatives refused to comment on the future of property values, saying that they didn't see the possibility of a real impact on real estate in the area.

"Much of this is always – not just this case, but so many cases – fueled by fear, misunderstanding, and then the whole thing just explodes," said Sadler after the meeting. "It's unfortunate. We got as much [technical info] out today that we can and we'll continue to do so."

"I felt it didn't go well," said Fitzpatrick. "It was just – I'm afraid that all the emotions will go against them with the councillors."

Council members including Dysart reeve Murray Fearrey, Haliburton County warden Dave Burton and Dysart councillor Dennis Casey attended the meeting to hear public reaction in advance of a public meeting to be held in March at the township municipal office. They remained silent when participants in the community questioned them about their position on the matter.

"If Armaterc does go through, the only real bearing it would have on Highlands East would be a few jobs," Burton, who is also the reeve of Highlands East, told The Highlander. "I don't think it's going to be a huge nuisance."

"I think the meeting was informative," said John Chmiel of Hamilton, who owns 500 acres in Leafield. "I think that because this type of industry is so new, there's really nothing else we can relate to as the kind of impact there will be. I think it's the mystery of what we are facing here that has everyone up in arms."

"I really wish residents on the other lake communities in Haliburton County would get involved," said Fitzpatrick. "Because ... how would they like it?"

Representatives of the Harcourt community will attend the public meeting called by Dysart et al to further discuss the issue on March 3 at 5 p.m. Sadler said that should Dysart council deny the application, Armaterc would file an appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board.



Photo by Sue Tiffin

Ecovue property planner Heather Sadler came under fire by passionate residents for some of her responses to their questions about the impact of Armaterc's plans.



The **Pinestone Resort** would like to sincerely thank the community of Haliburton Highlands for nominating us for the Business Achievement Awards.

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Editorial opinion

Bombs away

If words were as deadly as bombs, Armatec Survivability representatives would be missing limbs.

That's because local residents and seasonal property owners who attended a recent information session hosted by the tank manufacturer were steaming mad about the company's plans to build a testing facility on 2,300 acres of land in the municipality of Dysart et al.

These angry residents expressed fears about a decline in property values, harmful effects on the environment and noise pollution.

At first glance, it doesn't seem to be a very enticing project for anyone living near the proposed testing site. For some reason, images of tanks rolling through the pristine forests of the Haliburton Highlands aren't exactly what you'd expect to see in cottage country.

But are distressed residents jumping the proverbial gun?

As reported by Sue Tiffin in this week's edition of The Highlander, representatives from the London-area company ensured residents that the area would be regulated by federal guidelines, and that a maximum of 30 explosions and 120 mobility tests would be performed annually.

That's an average of two-and-a-half explosions and 10 mobility tests per month.

And just how much noise would these blasts create? A lot less than some of those long weekend parties by the lake, or the fireworks that had Minden councillors reviewing their noise bylaw.

According to information on Armatec's website, the noise produced by a mobility test is expected to be as loud as a medium-sized tractor at a distance of 600m. Typical mobility tests will be less than one hour long.

That's quite a few decibels lower than a concert, construction site, or busy downtown core during tourist season.

Those opposed to the test site also need to look at the other side of the coin and consider what good could come out of the project. Armatec representatives have said that a minimum of five jobs – and as many as 15 – would be made available to local residents.

Sure, that may not sound like much, but in a county where 23 per cent of residents rely on government sources for income (Social Determinants of Health in Haliburton County, 2009) and well-paying jobs are few and far between, we need all the help we can get.

As one property owner said, "it's the mystery of what we're facing here that has everyone up in arms."

And I completely agree. But that doesn't mean we should be slamming the door in Armatec's face.

If the company is able to fulfill its promises to the municipality around noise, frequency of tests, environmental impact and job opportunities, let's give them a fair chance.



By Mark Arike

Evasive manoeuvres

Statistics Canada released new data this week from the 2011 census and the picture the numbers paint for Haliburton County should interest us all.

Population is up by 11 per cent over the last 15 years and, as we already know, we're getting older. Seniors now comprise 27.9 per cent of permanent residents, compared to 22.4 per cent in 1996. Though the labour force increased by 1,315 during that period, only 3,600 of us are actually employed full-time, year-round. Just over half of those permanent, full-time positions are in government, healthcare and education. Given the higher wages these professions generally attract, my estimate a few weeks ago that these sectors contribute roughly three-quarters of economic activity during the winter may not be far off the mark. Side note: that's why Dysart council is keeping an open mind on Armatec; five jobs make a difference here.

Though individual incomes are up, household incomes are down substantially, a full 10 per cent. It's not due to retirees earning less money, because the data only apply to those in the workforce; what it may indicate is a small drop in the number of dual-income families, a good sign if it means more stay-at-home moms and dads. So far, so good.

But there's a shocker in the data, a cliff we're approaching with no sign of a way back. It's the converse of an ageing population – a collapse in the number of children and young adults.

Between 1996 and 2011, the number of children under 15 years old dropped 33 per cent. That's 900 fewer students for our schools, 900 fewer people in the workforce, 900 fewer consumers down the road.

We already have a dearth of younger residents. Looking at the chart below, there's a steep drop under 45, with the worst deficit in the 30-34 category. Fast forward 25 years and that will be the cohort running our municipalities, businesses, healthcare and schools; except

when they reach 50-54, assuming all are alive and working, we'll have only 545 people in that group compared to 1,635 who are in that age group today. New people may be attracted by jobs, but at best the influx – and loss of so much local experience – will be jarring to our community.

At worst, the seniors' housing we need to build so urgently for people coming off the lakes and back roads in their 70s and 80s will stand empty after the first occupants ... depart. Without children and after the baby boomer wave passes, we won't have much need for the schools and healthcare services, the construction and retail, that are so important to our well-being and economy.

Look again at the chart and imagine a vertical line down the centre. In 50 years, nearly everyone to the right of that line will be dead, leaving only a rump population to carry on.

The urgency of this potential demographic catastrophe is in the nature of a plane approaching a mountain. We cannot ignore it and we must take action.

Yet ignore it seems to be what our councils are doing. The buck is passed from municipalities to county and back again, and the gap marches on. Kudos for the concerted efforts to boost tourism, but without a serious, substantial campaign to bring younger people to the Highlands and keep them here, we're going to hit that mountain.

Accountability starts at home. This being an election year, all of us need to demand from our politicians that they look forward, see the mountain and do something about it. The typical issues of road maintenance, noise by-laws, rail trails and store signage are quaint small-town distractions compared to what's at stake if we don't act: our future.



By Bram Lebo

HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

TheHighlander

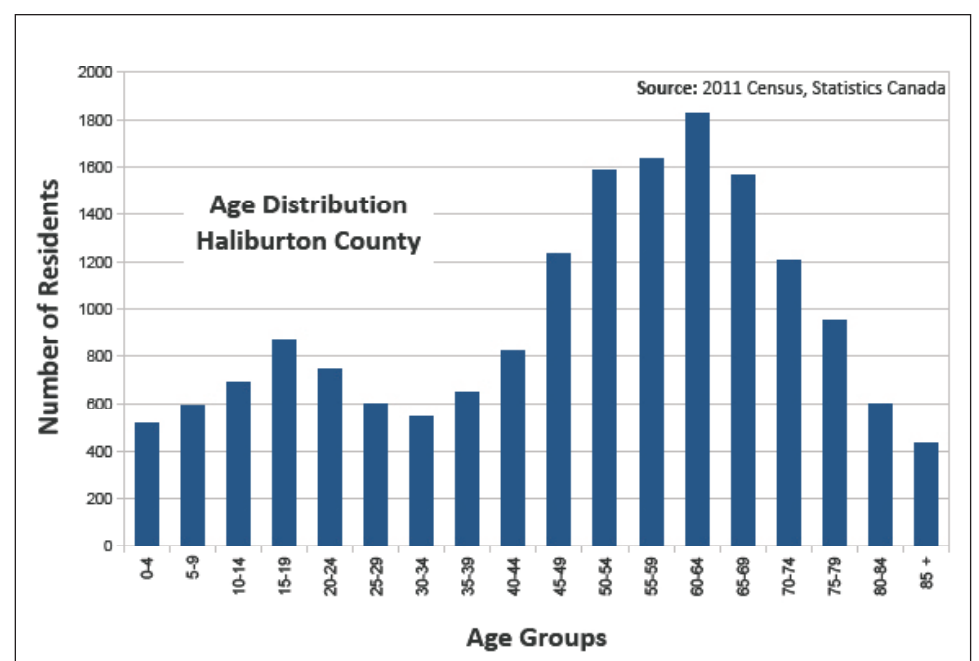
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Matthew is on vacation and will be back with his editorial next week.

Letters to the editor

Swimming pool not a priority

Dear editor,

We need a pool like we need a hole in the head. My opinion of course.
As far as the feasibility study, consulting firms will say anything hoping to secure revenue from their study. The monthly per adult membership fee of \$45 for between the 1,600 and 2,230 permanent county residents will fall far short in relation to the maintenance fees to maintain a pool, heat, hydro, telephone, and cost to clean and maintain the centre inside and out. We have several resorts we could reach out to for assistance when it comes to utilizing their pool facilities for a reasonable fee at no cost to the county taxpayer. I am sure the various resorts would be more than willing to find a compromise when it comes to securing revenue.

I feel the priority for county council and my county tax dollars should be put towards county road infrastructure and repairs. All one has to do is travel Glamorgan Road to support the need for upgrading. If we want tourism to grow and prosper, a strong well-maintained county road system is a must. County council should also be reaching out to entrepreneurs and enticing them to locate in the county, thereby creating employment. We advertise tourism, but why not promote the benefits of being a business owner in relaxing rural Haliburton County? Much more beneficial and practical than a pool even if the CSPI [County Swimming Pool Initiative] does not agree.

Beverly MacDuff
Gooderham

New column an insightful read

Dear editor,

First, let us say how much we generally enjoy reading *The Highlander*. The editorials, articles and columns often bring a different perspective on things local. Recently, we particularly enjoyed the piece “Finding myself in the Highlands” by Austin McGillion, which appeared in the Feb. 20 edition. It was both inspiring and affirming. We were inspired by Austin’s positive outlook and determination and it affirmed for us,

the fact that the Highlands are full of kind, caring and empathetic people. His insight into the personal choices that “work for him” is to be admired. The Alternate Education Training Centre is one of those successful choices as, it seems, was making the move to Haliburton. We look forward to reading more of Austin’s work in the weeks to come. Go for it Austin!

Greg and Bonnie Roe
Ritchie Falls

LETTERS CONTINUE

on page 6

Photo of the week



Photo by Guenter Horst

The sun sets on a barn located on a property off Bobcaygeon Road.

A feeling so new, so unusual

And so I bathed in the glory of it all. I soaked up the exuberant pre-game atmosphere, the excitement of the game itself, the elation at the goals, the pride of Canadians on top of the world. And I have to admit that, even for a reserved, sometimes a little restrained, English bloke I rather enjoyed it.
Yes, I got carried away by the men’s hockey final at the Olympics. I roared when they scored, I cheered whenever ‘our Matt’ touched the puck and I shook hands and patted backs of all in sundry when the final second fell from the clock.
I have to admit that it all came as a bit of a shock. Firstly, finding myself wanting to rise from my bed at 5:30 a.m. and drag myself, my lovely wife (who manages to glow even at that ungodly hour) and a rather groggy Little Z to the Pinestone for a communal breakfast and hockey game was a strange feeling. But, on getting there, came the realization that this was going to be a fun event. Folks were dressed up, smiling through their tiredness and eager for the game to start. I buried my doubts and dove straight into the

coffee and croissants.
I say doubts because being English I have long gotten excited about big matches but have learned not to expect too much. You see, football (not soccer) is England’s national game and the English team are always tipped to do well. However, not since 1966 has the team brought home the World Cup. And that was before I was born (just before, honest).
But still, in the build-up to each World Cup, the English media whips the public into a fervour of nationalistic pride and insists that this year, ‘our boys’ will bring home the trophy. Now, being English, we are all somewhat pessimistic and sarcastic about this to begin with but somehow everyone, even those who don’t normally like football, begins to ‘believe’. Pop stars write catchy tunes about winning the cup, prime ministers send good wishes to the players, pubs order in vast quantities of extra beer (this is drunk whether we win or lose). And then the competition begins.
England fails to impress but scrapes through the first few games. They get better and win one or perhaps two

decisively. ‘This is it; this is the year we’ll do it’, you can hear the whispers, you can feel the hope really building... And then, in the quarterfinals England meets a team that is actually rather good at football and we come unstuck. We play terribly and lose by a big margin; or we hold out and the game goes to penalties, only for our guys to fluff their lines and miss wildly, so losing and embarrassing themselves. The public is now used to this and goes back to everyday life (after finishing the extra beer) and the press goes on a witch hunt, which usually ends in the manager of the team being fired. Our shot at glory is gone and our hopes and dreams are forgotten for another four years.
But here in Canada there are happy endings. Here in Canada the national team wins. Both national teams win. I’m not forgetting the women’s hockey team. I wish I could have watched the final but I was at work, on a roof and so there was no communal fanfare for me, other than a whoop and a hug from my boss.
But as I was saying, here in Canada the boys and girls do bring home the trophy.

They do justice to the game that is held so dear to millions of Canadians’ hearts. They won and that meant that I got to feel the elation that I have been missing with my allegiance to the English football team. It meant that I could experience a room full of sports fans going wild when their team achieved the highest honour in the world, rather than drowning my sorrows in another pint of warm stout. It meant that I could shout and cheer to my heart’s content, amidst a crowd of like-minded folk who were totally, utterly, deliriously happy with the outcome.
Thank you Canada, and your crazy hockey fans for allowing this oft disappointed English man to join in with your joy. I’ll savour the moment and cherish the memories; and I’ll try to keep them with me in June when the World Cup starts and I watch my team slowly capitulate once again.
“Go Canada!” I’m a hockey convert.



By Will Jones

The Outsider

Highlander opinion

Eye on the street: Did you know that a legal marijuana production facility is being built in Haliburton?



Louise McDonald

Haliburton

No. Did not know about it, but if it is legal and helping people then I am all for it. As long as it is helpful and creates jobs here than this is good.

Ray Campbell

Eagle Lake

No, I did not know about it. I am not really for it because it is already too easy to get it.



Lisa Box

Haliburton

What! No I did not know that. Even if it is medicinal I do not know if I agree with it. But I guess if they are really ill or hurting I feel it is OK as long as there is high security on the building.

Miles Robertson

Haliburton

I knew that one was going to be built. I did not know that they had met the requirements. It does not bother me so why not have it here?



Michelle Smolarz

Tory Hill

No, I did not know that. Why not if it is legal and it helps? If people need it then more power to them for building it here.

Photos and interviews by Walt Griffin

It's time for a recreation centre

Dear editor,

I am dumbfounded as to why this area still does not have a plan in place to build a rec centre. I attended the county council meeting last week with both my daughters, one of whom was dressed in a swimsuit in support of having a pool. I was shocked how it needed to be pointed out to councillors what a good thing having an indoor pool and track would be for this area. These are the people who are supposed to represent us? I wasn't here for the last election but so far none of the candidates running in this election have my vote because none have my family's best interests at heart. If it needs to be explained over and over again how beneficial exercise is, or that building this facility would create jobs, real jobs that are needed in this area, or that taxpayers are demanding it, or that our area is losing money, then maybe those on council shouldn't be making other decisions for this area.

Because there is no pool in this area, I spend my money elsewhere. Yes, there are lakes around here and for hopefully two months a year, both of my daughters and I are able to do what we love every day – and that's swim. But because there is no facility around here for my kids, I spend my money in Bracebridge. Every week, my daughters are in lessons, with other Haliburton/Minden residents. After swimming, we sometimes give more of our money to Bracebridge by possibly going out to lunch, doing errands, buying gas, pretty much keeping their merchants happy because we are there and it's

convenient. Am I the only one doing this? No, I'm not. I'm glad there are four ice pads and multiple curling rinks in the area, that's great for those who enjoying those sports – but there are plenty of other physical activities out there that local residents participate in such as running, walking and of course swimming!

I understand this area wants to attract seniors and cottagers but has it slipped your mind, county council, that you also need young families in order to keep this area going? We are the ones who operate the restaurants, and the stores and all the rinks in this area. It's not the retirees who operate the hospitals. It's not the cottagers who maintain the landscaping or roads. It's the young families and middle age, full-time residents who keep this area functioning. You don't keep us happy then we'll have to leave. Keep us happy and we'll stay and others will follow to this beautiful area.

I should also point out, if county council wants to continue to say they aren't responsible for recreation, they should change their vision statement on their website.

Yes, county council is providing a high quality of life for individuals – sadly it's only for themselves.

So step up members of county council and actually start thinking of those who voted to put you where you are – pick a place in Haliburton County and build this rec centre!

**Carolyn Alder
Minden**

Visionary leadership needed

Dear editor,

Our thanks to Sue Tiffin for her front-page article (Feb. 20 issue) on our Committee's delegation to county council on Feb. 19 regarding the results of our Market Demand Feasibility Study for an indoor pool and recreation centre in Haliburton County.

Indeed the report, commissioned by the County Swimming Pool Initiative, found that between 1,600 and 2,230 individual adults would pay \$45 each per month for a membership to the facility. These memberships alone would bring in between \$720,000 and \$1,103,000 revenue per year. Then you can add revenues that were not included in the study: from child, youth and family memberships, seasonal users, Fleming students, and those who would pay per use. These additional users should bring our revenue up to at least \$900,000, which would be \$180,000, more than the expenses of a comparable recreation centre such as the one in Petrolia, On., which has annual operating expenses of \$705,878.

Gary McKnight, treasurer of the County Swimming Pool Initiative, made a very significant statement that if the facility in Haliburton were managed in a business-like manner it would operate in the black. This would not be a burden to the taxpayer.

This recreation facility presents the County of Haliburton with a means to grow its tax base. Harvey Bates, our spokesperson, pointed out that many lakefront property owners will soon be unable to live full-time at their lakefront properties because of the amount of physical work necessary to keep their places in shape. Many of these people may soon reluctantly move out of the County to retirement communities in towns such as Huntsville, Bracebridge, Gravenhurst or Bobcaygeon unless they can find places in Haliburton where they can keep up their fitness levels in a suitable indoor facility.

Yes, their properties will be bought and the taxes will be paid by the new owners; but there will not be an increase in the number of property owners unless these seniors stay in the county and purchase some of

the new condos or a home in Haliburton Village or Minden. When they pay property taxes (directly or indirectly through the condo corporation), it will increase the tax base, bringing in more income to the four municipalities, and expanding the population base which will support local business.

The County Housing Study determined there's an average tax bill of \$2,500 per property in this County. The same study determined that approximately 10.6 per cent of seasonal residences in Dysart belong to people who have indicated that they want to move into one of the towns within the County. That amounts to 1,000 people, or roughly 500 couples.

If these couples or individuals purchase a house or condo they'd pay an average of \$2,500 annually in property taxes, bringing in an additional \$1,250,000 to Dysart. The other three townships would also benefit, but to a lesser degree. With an increased tax base, the county and municipalities could afford to provide improved infrastructure and amenities that residents both want and need. The point is that a recreation centre that benefits its full-time residents' health and social lives would actually be bringing in more money to the County and reducing health care costs – a win-win situation for both tiers of government, and for those who don't want to move out of the county when they leave their lakefronts.

Recently, we've seen newspaper articles in regards to rising costs of OPP services. The realities are that we are going to continue to see upward pressure on taxes as health and other costs continue to rise, and if we don't capitalize on our opportunity to grow our tax base residents are clearly headed for tax increases that are just not sustainable at the county or community level.

What we need in this community is a visionary group of leaders that will step up to the plate and lead our communities in the right direction.

*Sincerely,
Harvey Bates, Gay Bell and Gary McKnight
County Swimming Pool Initiative*

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Have your opinion known...
send your letters to
matthew@haliburtonhighlander.ca

Highlander news



Photo by Mark Arike

This 5,000-square-foot building on Industrial Park Road is the site of a future medical marijuana production facility.

Legal marijuana grow-op in the works

By Mark Arike
Staff Writer

A building that is expected to house a medical marijuana facility is currently under construction on Industrial Park Road in Haliburton.

“Right now, we’re just building a building,” said James Tout, who was reached by phone in Keswick, Ont.

According to minutes from an Aug. 26, 2013 Dysart council meeting, Tout and a Darrell Connors made an offer to the municipality to purchase the property for \$10,000 plus legal fees. Council accepted the offer and asked the municipality’s clerk to proceed with

completing the terms of sale.

Chief building official Dan Sayers confirmed that the owners intend to utilize the 5,500-square-foot warehouse building for the production of medical marijuana.

On Feb. 24, Sayers said he was waiting to receive a site plan agreement from the municipality before issuing a building permit. “I gave them permission to proceed with the foundation only so they could get started ASAP once the site plan process is complete,” he said. “They had everything else required and had a preliminary review of the site plan.”

Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey said the municipality was aware of the buyers’ intentions early on.

“They said they were purchasing it to put a federally regulated, legal marijuana structure on it,” he said.

“I think people need to understand that they’re just not selling marijuana to grow on the street. This is marijuana for medicinal purposes.”

Fearrey said the production facility will create local employment opportunities.

“They have confirmed there would be five local jobs.”

According to Health Canada, those interested in growing medical marijuana must apply to Health Canada to become a licensed producer.

“Licensed producers can be authorized

to possess, sell, provide, ship, deliver, transport, destroy, produce, export and/or import marijuana for medical purposes under the *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations*,” states Health Canada’s website.

The 15-page application form covers production quantity, security, ownership information, and includes a notice to local government, police and fire authorities.

At the end of January in 2012, Health Canada statistics revealed that 13,781 people in Canada were authorized to possess dried marijuana while 1,912 held a Designated Person Production License.

Reeves take OPP billing concerns to minister

By Sue Tiffin
Staff Writer

Four local municipal leaders joined more than 1,800 elected officials in Toronto to share their concerns about the new OPP billing model at the annual Rural Ontario Municipal Association/Ontario Good Roads Association convention that ran from Feb. 23-26.

Dysart reeve Murray Fearrey, Algonquin Highlands reeve Carol Moffatt, Minden Hills reeve Barb Reid, and Haliburton County warden and Highlands East reeve Dave

Burton were kept busy at back-to-back meetings during the four-day conference which included a variety of topics, one of which was the new OPP billing model.

The billing model, intended to even out provincial costing, would cause massive tax increases of 20-36 per cent in Haliburton County, and reeves feel the plan would put a significant number of households in jeopardy of major debt.

The reeves prepared a delegation for the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services Madeline Meilleur, OPP

Commissioner Chris Lewis and Municipal Policing Commander Rick Philbin, but felt the neutral response to their presentation was disappointing.

“We did voice our concerns,” said Burton, who noted that the minister heard from 50 municipal delegations on the police costing formula. “I hope they were listening. It was almost a plea, because we just can’t afford this new formula.”

Burton said he hoped the government would feel pressure to review the funding formula that requires, among other concerns, that

Haliburton County pay for 54 officers despite being serviced by 29 officers without a need for more.

“I think we’re doing what we can do down here,” said Burton.

Council has stressed that they are proud of the police force and support their efforts, but are against the OPP billing reform as a political issue. Moffatt has been vocal on social media sites to urge local residents to get involved, write letters to members of parliament, and show concern for the issue.



INFORMATION PAGE

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Meetings and Events

February 27

8:00 am, Regular meeting of Council,
Minden Council Chambers
(public session 1:00 am)

March 6

Daylight Savings Time, and your clocks
ahead 1 hour

March 10

8:00 am, COTW meeting,
Minden Council Chambers
(10:00 am public session)

March 27

8:00 am, Regular meeting of Council,
Minden Council Chambers
(10:00 am public session)

Residents

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currently available for the Township of
Minden Hills.

Public-Resident Meeting

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preparing for the inevitable resources
before they are required.

The Municipality will continue to
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media broadcasting and media releases
to media stations and local newspapers.

Please visit the municipality at
7 Milne Street, 2nd floor for information.



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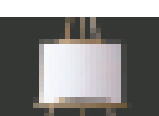
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To register, please call 705-266-1290.

To help support the winterfest activities,
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are interested, please call 705-266-1290.

Winterfest Open House Saturday, March 29, 2014 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Minden Hills Cultural Centre

The Township of Minden Hills is pleased
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To register, please call 705-266-1290.

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Winterfest Minden

Thank You

The Township of Minden Hills would like
to thank everyone who came out to the
Winterfest event on February 16th and
17th. We hope to keep making it an event
discovered better for the future!

We would also like to extend a big thank
you to the four dedicated volunteers
that helped run the different activities
throughout the weekend:

Minden Fireworks for sponsoring
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Highlander news

More charges laid in vehicle thefts case

By Mark Arike
Staff Writer

The OPP have laid more charges against a Haliburton resident suspected of being involved in numerous vehicle break-ins across the county.

"It has been an extensive and involved investigation," said Haliburton Highlands OPP Const. Paul Potter. "In many cases, owners were tracked down through companies and manufacturers of the property and that takes time."

A Feb. 20 press release from the OPP revealed that Katlyn Hollands, 22, had been charged with nine counts of possession of property obtained by crime under \$5,000, bringing the total number of charges against her to 11.

Hollands was initially arrested and charged

along with 26-year-old Michael Wallwork of Haliburton in connection with numerous offences, including theft under \$5,000 and possession of cocaine and marijuana, after plainclothes and uniformed officers executed a search warrant at a residence on Wigamog Road in Haliburton on Jan. 3.

According to the OPP, the stolen property was obtained from vehicles in Haliburton County between the spring of 2013 and last December.

A total of 29 charges have been laid against Hollands and Wallwork.

"At this time, we are not anticipating any more charges," said Potter, who confirmed that most of the stolen property has been returned to its rightful owners.

Hollands is scheduled to appear at the Minden courthouse on March 5.

Councillors address EMS base and fire hall partnership

By Sue Tiffin
Staff Writer

A proposed EMS base and fire hall continues to be discussed as Haliburton County and Minden Hills council looks deeper at issues that surround a possible cost-sharing agreement and joint ownership of the land purchased by the county in 2010.

Minden Hills has agreed to pay half of the costs incurred to date for the purchase and servicing of the property, which is located off Hwy 35, but are waiting to hear about potential grants that might be available for the actual construction of a building before making a final decision about how to proceed.

"Our council is pretty adamant. The whole notion is the grant," said Minden Hills reeve Barb Reid. "It would have such a significant impact on our tax levy if we were to fund this on our own. Infrastructure may be identified in March, so it's not a long time to wait and see."

The council also discussed the option of building a combined EMS base and fire hall, or having two separate buildings on the shared property. Council turned to EMS director Craig Jones for his opinion about combining

the buildings, a move that would save money through shared operating costs.

Jones said his team would be open to either idea of a combined building or separate buildings, but that his experience in Leeds-Granville suggested that it was difficult for EMS and fire department staff to work together due to maintenance of the emergency vehicles, and safety legislation in a shared space.

"It's nothing but problems and they're constantly looking to get out," he said of the teams in Leeds-Granville.

Algonquin Highlands reeve Carol Moffatt cited her experience with a shared resources agreement between Algonquin Highlands and Lake of Bays that she said had ongoing issues.

"Over the years, it has been very difficult to move forward with anything," said Moffatt.

Council decided to have EMS staff, fire hall staff, and the treasurer review the proposal and report their recommendations back to council in March.

"I don't see this as a vote against a partnership," said Councillor Liz Danielson. "I think it's just about how this is going to happen — simple deferral for clarity."



Destination Guide makes its debut

By Sue Tiffin
Staff Writer

The new county logo has been launched and with it comes the Haliburton County's 2014 Destination Guide, which made its grand debut at the Outdoor Adventure Show in Toronto on Feb. 21. The guide is intended to entice tourists to the county, but is also of interest to residents.

"When locals have visitors up, are looking for something to do with their kids, or simply want to know how to fill a weekend,

the event listings are a quick and easy reference," said Amanda Ranson, county tourism director.

Fifty thousand copies of the annual publication will be available across the county and Ontario with two editions designed to highlight all four seasons. The guide includes a map for easy access to local attractions.

Copies of the guide are available by contacting the Haliburton Highlands Tourist Information Centre at 705-286-1777.

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 Haliburton Highlands
CHAMBER of COMMERCE



Photo by Mark Arike

Blake Paton, president of Boshkung Brewing Co., hopes to start serving a selection of craft beers to the public at the end of March.

Boshkung Brewing ready at the vats

By Mark Arike
Staff writer

The Boshkung Brewing Co. should be ready to start serving their line of craft beers by the end of next month.

"We expect our licence around mid-March and we should have beer for sale 10 days or so after getting the licence," said Blake Paton, president of Boshkung Brewing Co. and co-owner of Rhubarb Restaurant.

"You can't brew anything until you've got your manufacturer's licence," laughed Paton.

Last September, Paton, his wife Jennifer, Christoph Carl and Terri Matthews purchased That Place in Carnarvon from Sue and Ed Yallop. Carl and Matthews partnered with the Patons to relocate Rhubarb restaurant from Eagle Lake to the new location, and start up the brewing company.

In the fall, Paton, who is also a teacher at J.D. Hodgson Elementary School, assisted with renovations to the building.

"We're really pleased with how things are going," he said, referring to the success the restaurant has already experienced.

Paton has also been working hard to line up everything needed to get the brewery operation up and running. This included a detailed report to obtain an excise licence from the federal government, which allowed him to apply for a manufacturer's licence.

"It's a time-consuming process," he said.

"All these things have to be done beforehand. It implies a certain amount of commitment."

Though Paton has been a craft brewer for most of his adult life, he's learned a lot about self-reliance and the importance of small-town values through the launch of this venture.

"We really learned to value the huge amount of community support and encouragement we have received," he said. "We got an incredible amount of support from our customers and well-wishers. It really kept us going when we needed motivation to get the job done."

The "flagship" beers Paton intends to release include a lager, pale ale, dark ale and wheat. Four seasonal beers will also be in the lineup.



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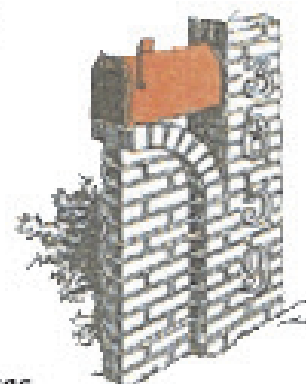
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Highlander arts

Television: from Duchene to Downton

As I start to write this edition of What's Up, it's Saturday morning Feb. 22, and the piece is due for the Monday deadline. I'm usually finished days before deadline, and I'm blaming television for my being so late in getting things done – more precisely my continual watching of television during the span of the Olympics.

I tend to watch way too much television as it is. A couple of years ago we opted for some high-def channels such as Oasis, which is a nature channel, and HIFI, which is dedicated to the arts. Our package also includes some sports channels.

Of course sports, especially hockey and baseball, are greatly enhanced with high def, and it's hockey, the Olympic variety, that has me glued to the set recently. Although this edition of my column is not strictly a Haliburton story, the Olympic men's hockey team does feature local lad Matt Duchene as a fourth line centre.

Duchene has not had a lot of ice time, but the experience will see him possibly shine on future Olympic teams and I must say that whenever we've seen his face at other Olympic events, like the women's hockey final against the USA (and wasn't that a game for the ages?) he's been beamingly supportive and animated; a fan just like the rest of us.

Whenever Duchene has been interviewed he's come across as a well-spoken young

man whose winning smile just warms the cockles of our collective hearts. He's a fine representative of our region and also a fine cultural ambassador. Yes, hockey is every bit a part of our culture as a Group of Seven painting and Stompin' Tom Connors cemented the fact when he wrote "The Hockey Song."

On Feb. 21, the men eked out a dominating win over the U.S.A. (and yes, a 1-0 score in this instance can be called dominating). I'm still buzzed over that win because it showed that Canada has learned how to play international hockey the way good soccer teams play their game on the international stage. Scoring goals is not the sole aim, winning is, and defence and patience play huge parts.

Anyway, I realized a week ago that this story would come together in sections and that I'd have to await Sunday's outcome of the men's hockey final to complete it. While I await the game, with the rest of the Canadian bated-breath brigade, it has occurred to me (as an aside) that these Olympics, from a Canadian perspective, have been successful in a large part due to the contributions of our womenfolk.

The women have excelled on the snow and on the ice, and at the risk of sounding sexist I must say that they are a fantastic looking lot: all healthy, rosy-cheeked, and er ... TV-friendly.



By Sue Tiffin

Canoe tests new radio hall

With the help of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Canoe FM has realized the dream of a new radio hall, where a studio audience can watch live performances. On Feb. 22, DJ Malcolm MacLean tested the new radio hall while local musicians Sheri Hawkins and the Tuba Divers and Amelia and the Mayor entertained the audience. Canoe will be officially opening the doors of the space with a grand opening in the spring.

What's Up



By George Farrell

After all of that, I feel like a zombie. But it was worth it. Matt Duchene and the rest of the hockey players all won, as did our curlers, with a clean sweep of both the men's and women's events. Congratulations should go to all our Olympians, not just the medalists. They all competed hard.

Now I can relax, and guess what? I have more TV to look forward to as the well-ordered lives of the rich (and those who wait upon them) unfold in the season finale of Downton Abbey. It'll be a delicious denouement, but starting tomorrow I vow to watch less television. Yeah, sure.

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Highlander sports

Haliburton embraces Duchene's gold medal

By Mark Arike
Staff Writer

It seemed as if the entire county was watching.

This past Sunday morning, local residents were glued to their televisions to witness Team Canada and Haliburton's own Matt Duchene defeat Sweden 3-0 in the men's hockey series at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

Some watched from home while others made their way to local establishments such as McKecks Tap & Grill and the Pinestone Resort for the 7 a.m. gold medal game (or 4 p.m. Sochi time).

For Duchene, a centre for the Colorado Avalanche, being a part of that winning group was unlike anything else.

"[The] first thing he did was give me a huge hug and said, 'I'm so glad you guys came over here to celebrate this with me,'" said Duchene's father Vince, who packed up and flew to Sochi with his wife Chris and daughter Jess to catch all the action. "He also mentioned the words to all of us, 'well, we did it!'"

Although Duchene was a healthy scratch in the first two of four games, he was able to take the centre position in the final game, filling in for the injured John Tavares.

Tavares suffered a torn medial collateral ligament and meniscus tear in the quarterfinal game against Latvia.

Oddly enough, Duchene had the same injury two years ago.

"He was devastated for him [Tavares] because he knew exactly how he felt," said Vince.

The Duchene family experienced a variety of emotions while watching the gold medal game.

"Chris and Jessica were very nervous and excited. I, on the other hand, was as relaxed and calm as I have ever been. The difference for me was I've been to other events like the Stanley Cup playoffs, under 17 gold medal game, two world championships and of course his first Avalanche game, all of which I was a mess."

Immediately after the win, the players gathered in the National Hockey League Players' Association lounge area located in the basement of the rink, recalled Vince.

"Matt was the third to come out and I've never seen such a huge, glowing, proud smile."

In Vince's opinion, his son's line was "the spark in the second period that generated some really good scoring chances and kept the Swedes in their end."



Photo submitted by Vince Duchene

The Duchene family gathers after Team Canada's win. Left to right: Vince, Matt, Chris and Jessica.

Vince and Chris arrived back in Haliburton on Monday night. Duchene, on the other hand, returned to Denver, Colorado to play in his first NHL game since the Olympics against the Los Angeles Kings on Wednesday.

The entire Olympic journey was one that

the Duchenes will certainly never forget.

"Russia deserves a huge [round of] applause," said Vince. "They were gracious hosts, they loved Canadians to the point where we took countless photos with Russian families. The whole experience was over the top."

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Highlander sports

Highland Storm Hockey

Bantams eliminate Ennismore

Submitted by Craig Smith

After losing game one, the Highland Storm Smolen Dentistry Bantam A team came back and won the next three games to eliminate the Ennismore Eagles. The Storm played game three in Minden on Feb. 21 and won 6-3. The Storm had some solid goaltending from Josh Bellfleur. Chase Burden scored a hat trick and Paydon Miscio, Nolan Flood and Kyle Cooper scored one each. Assists went to Jake Bishop and Owen "Smitty" Smith with two, and Mark Saville with one.

Game two was in Ennismore Saturday night and the Storm didn't take long to give their fans something to cheer about as Ethan Keefer once again fired a bullet past the Eagles' goalie just 25 seconds into the game. Assists went to Burden and Chris Thompson. Then the teams battled it out with both goaltenders making

some big saves until Matt Wilbee fired a slapshot top shelf to put them up 2-0, assisted by Burden to end the second.

Then with 3:21 left, Wilbee scored his second of the game unassisted.

Flood finished off the game and series with an empty net goal assisted by Smith and Jake Bishop at the 1:05 mark.

Parker Smolen got a well-deserved shutout. The Storm will take on Listowel in the OMHA semi-finals and the winner will play Paris or Mount Brydges for the OMHA all-Ontario finals. The schedule is unknown at press time.

Peppermill Atom A

Submitted by Kathy Martin

After a late start to our game on Friday night due to a referee mix-up, the boys got down to business and Joe Boice put us on the map at the seven-minute mark in the first period. Then with three minutes to go in the first, Cody Martin popped in a nice one giving the Pepper Mill Atom As a 2-0 lead against Gananoque. The first period flew by and then Boice and Alex Little made a great play to give us a 3-0 lead early in the second period. The third period just got started and quietly Brenden Newhook, assisted by Jake Sisson, slid in another to give us a 4-0 lead. Thirteen seconds later, Boice made it 5-0 and a minute after that Little made it 6-0. The boys were on fire! Boice went on to score twice more making the final score 8-0 for the Storm. Thanks to our strong defense team of Cole Prentice, Colin Glecoff and Aaron Bellefleur, the Gananoque Islanders weren't able to score one on our awesome goalie Dylan Keefer.

That finished off the quarterfinals and now we are moving on to the semi-finals between us and Listowel, On. So we will keep you posted on the home games. Please come out and cheer them on as the more support the better! Thanks to all those who came and watched the game. We really appreciate your encouragement.



Photo by Mark Arike

Students at Stuart Baker Elementary School get up close and personal with a two-man bobsled that was brought to the school by former bobsledder and local resident Al Hough.

Bobsledder in the classroom

By Mark Arike
Staff Writer

When Al Hough tuned in to the Olympics, it reminded him of what it was like to be a competitive athlete reaching for that dream.

Hough, a Haliburton resident, put his heart and soul into bobsledding a decade ago and aspired to represent Canada in the 2006 Games in Turin, Italy.

"I miss not going to the Olympics," said Hough, who visited students at Stuart Baker Elementary School on Feb. 21.

A track and field athlete in high school, Hough was always a competitive person.

He quit track in 2001 and was recruited by Bobsleigh Canada for tryouts in 2003. Unfortunately, it proved to be too big of a challenge for him at the time.

"I did seven tests against a bunch of 21-year-olds," he recalled. "I was 40, so they beat me at everything."

Feeling disappointed in himself, Hough was determined to give it another shot. Every day he would wake up at 4:30 a.m. for three hours of training, go to his full-time plumbing job, and then finish the day with more training at York University until they "kicked him out" at 10:30 p.m. He did that for three months straight and passed the test the second time

around – with flying colours.

In 2003, he joined Canada's bobsled team, which included Canadian Olympian Pierre Lueders. The team finished number one in the world with two new sledders.

In 2005, Hough took a year off to train, work and support his family. While training, he experienced his first significant injury while pushing a sled at Calgary's Ice House.

"I was pushing down a hill and I felt this pain in my calf. I tore half my calf muscle."

When Hough returned home to Newmarket, he underwent an MRI and was told he wouldn't be able to run for a year.

But Hough wouldn't let the prognosis stop him. He underwent treatment and was back to training within a month for the 2006 Olympics.

However, it just wasn't meant to be. In August of 2005, Hough suffered a career-ending injury when he shattered two toes on a push bar.

Although his Olympic dreams were ruined, Hough became a recruitment developmental coach for the Olympics for a year.

Hough called the high-speed sport addicting, but said it's difficult to attain longevity.

His fondest memories stem from the times spent with his fellow teammates.

"It's a team building thing. That was the best," he said.



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Fast Lane Bowling Scores

Monday afternoon, Feb. 17

High average: Ken Thompson - 210
High single: Ken Thompson - 256
High single handicap: Marty Shuster - 282
High triple: Ken Thompson - 667
High triple handicap: Fred Phipps - 725
Ladies high average: Chris Cote - 193
High single: Norma Terro - 163
High single handicap: Tilly Grosschadl - 229

High triple: Margaret Schepers - 446
High triple handicap: Margaret Schepers - 657

Monday night, Feb. 17

High single: Cathy Snell - 256
Doug Reinwald - 266
High single handicap: Cathy Snell - 262
Gord Pitcher - 287
High triple flat: Cathy Snell - 725
Doug Reinwald - 644
High triple with

handicap: Cathy Snell - 743
Gord Pitcher - 758
High average: Cathy Snell - 219
Rick West - 206

Tuesday afternoon Feb. 18

High average: Claude Cote - 203
Chris Cote - 189
High single: Ken Thompson - 238
Rae Shephard - 218
High single with handicap: Emile Duchene - 272

Rae Shephard - 270
High triple: Ken Thompson - 643
Rae Shephard - 521
High triple with handicap: Ken Thompson - 703
Rae Shephard - 683

Wednesday Special Olympics Feb. 12

Men
Brandon Bailey - 188
Robert Boccitto - 133
Luke Shapiera - 130

Women
Robin Fletcher - 177
Buddy Plouffe - 119
Heather Fowler - 114

Wednesday Corporate League Feb. 19

Connor - Flat 544

Thursday afternoon Feb. 20

High single flat: Lynne Bartlett - 211
Gerry Wagg - 233
High single handicap: Gerry Wagg - 273
Lynne Bartlett - 267

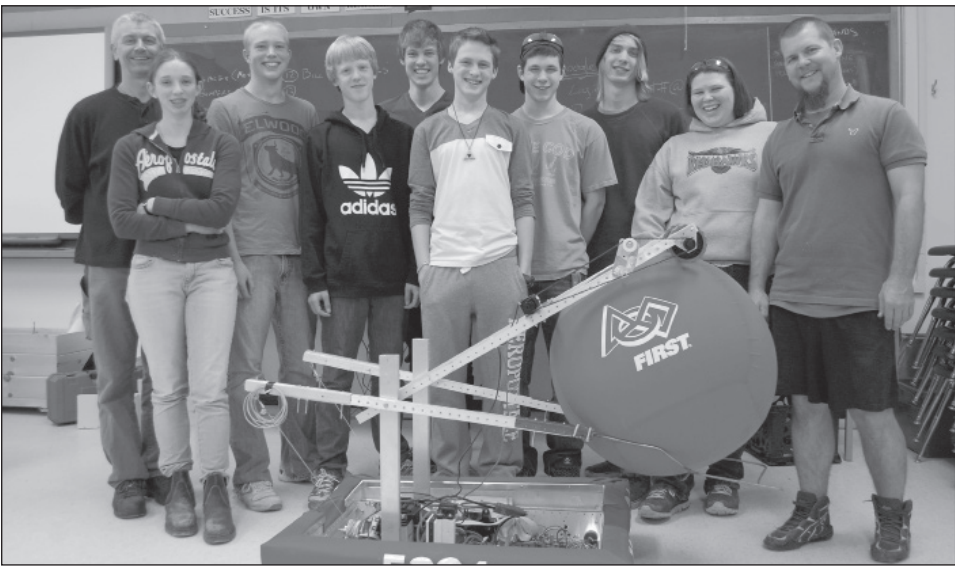
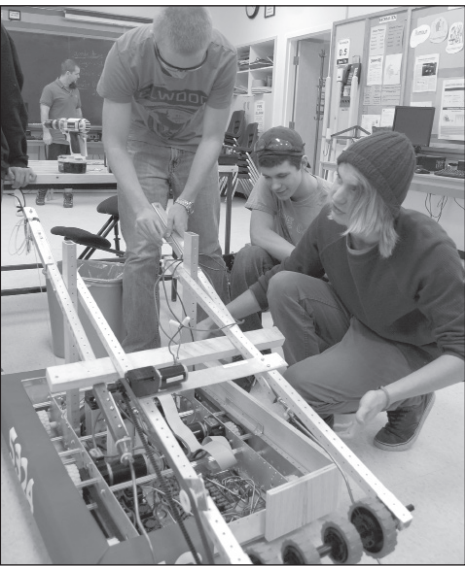
High triple flat: Gord Pitcher - 597
Elli Welch - 622
High triple handicap: Lynne Bartlett - 727
Gord Pitcher - 768
High average: Gloria Wagg - 180
Gerry Wagg - 176

Friday, Feb. 21

Men
High average: Claude Cote - 208
High single: Ken Thompson - 275
High single handicap:

Ken Thompson - 294
High triple: Ken Thompson - 668
High triple handicap: Ken Thompson - 725
Ladies
High average: Chris Cote - 191
High single handicap: Ren Higgins - 192
High single handicap: Netty Alexander - 236
High triple: Beverly Alexander - 479
High triple handicap: Netty Alexander - 695

Junior highlanders



Left: Sam Tyler (left), Nik Barry, and Jamie Pyl put the finishing touches on, their robot, Hawktimus Prime. Right: The Red Hawks Robotics Club are ready to take on all comers at the first Robotics Competition on March 27 to 29. From left are Dan Gimmon, Betty Paton, Sam Tyler, Caleb Schmidt, Felix Scuhr, Andrew Jennings, Nik Barry, Jamie Pyl, Natasha Bradley, and Dan Fockler.

Students give life to Hawktimus Prime

By Matthew Desrosiers
Editor

Hawktimus Prime.
The name sounds like something you'd hear in a Hollywood movie, but in actuality it belongs to a robot built by Haliburton's very own high school students.
The Red Hawks Robotics Club is the first ever of its kind in the county. The high school club was started during the first week of January, and is only seven weeks old.
Dan Fockler, the high school's tech and manufacturing teacher, started the group with the help of Ian McTavish, a teacher with the Huntsville High School.
"We'd been talking about [starting the club] for a few years, and then [McTavish] approached me and said they'd been doing it for a couple of years and would be willing to be a mentor team," said Fockler. "I thought, 'if not now, then when?'"
With the help of some funding from the Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) to get the club off the ground, they signed up for a FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) in North Bay.
Four students, the original club members, travelled to the kick-off event, where they received a rookie-team starter kit that included a drive train, parts for the robot's frame, electronics, the battery, and spare parts.

"A few of [the Huntsville students] worked with ours to get the initial frame and function of the robot going," said Fockler. "Then they did come down to spend a day with us with their robot, and showed us what theirs did last year."
The Red Hawks Robotics Club only had six weeks from the kick-off event to design, plan and build Hawktimus Prime. It was designed to play in a game called Aerial Assist, where alliances made up of three teams compete against one another to score goals with a giant ball. The teams get points for teamwork – passing the ball to one another – and scoring goals. The Red Hawks will be competing against 33 teams.
But these aren't the robot battles you might have seen on television.
"You're not allowed to contact other robots," said Fockler. "They're moving towards 'coopertition', going from killing the other robots to working together to accomplish something."
The club has reached 12 students. They started off meeting at lunch and twice a week after school to work on the robot, but that wasn't enough. Fockler said the club put in long hours on Feb. 15-16 and have been meeting every night to get it done on time.
Andrew Jennings is a Grade 12 student and one of the original four members of the club. He's also the group's lead programmer.
"[I've] always been interested in technology and computers," he said. "That's why I took more interest in the programming."
Although he always wanted to learn, Jennings had never programmed anything before attending the kick-off on Jan. 4.
Being on the club has given him the opportunity to learn.
"Learning the programming [has been the biggest challenge]," he said. "Some days I just didn't know what I was doing."
Because the club has limited robotics experience, they decided to keep the functions of their robot very simple. Some teams have big sponsors and build robots that can do it all – pass the ball, lift, throw and catch it. Hawktimus Prime, on the other hand, is able to gather the ball and pass the ball.
"We came in knowing bare to nothing," said Jennings. "A success for me was that I got the robot to move and do its function that I told it to do. That was a really proud achievement for me."
"If we could win a match in the tournament, I would be very happy with that."
The students travel to North Bay to compete at Nipissing University on March 27-29. They're in need of sponsors to help mitigate some of the registration and travel fees. Students are responsible for their own accommodations and food expenses.
For more information, or to help sponsor the team, contact Jacquie Mayhew at the high school.

McGillion's
movies

Ender's
Game


By Austin
McGillion

Director: Gavin Hood (X-men Origins: Wolverine & Tsoti)
Starring: Harrison Ford, and Hailee Steinfeld
This sci-fi, action-adventure is rated PG, but there is minimal violence and no blood or gore. I would recommend it for anyone seeking a good futuristic space-age movie. It is original and high tech for a movie of this caliber. It's not a perfect reflection of the Orson Scott Card 1985 novel, but more of a virtual representation.
The computer graphic imaging (CGI) is absolutely astonishing. The training field simulations were breathtaking and the personal training cube was innovative and original. It has an intriguing story line and the plot is easy to follow. The actors are believable – I was quick to identify with each of them. If you like fast-paced action with a lot of combat maneuvers and advanced computer tech, this is the movie for you. Harrison Ford portrays the classic admiral figure with great accuracy. Asa Butterfield plays the freshman cadet equally as well. This movie will appeal to those who like strategy, science fiction buffs and war movie lovers. If you're not into this genre or if your dead-set against war on another species, this movie is not for you.
The ending was a "wow" moment. It had an unexpected twist and I was more than a little overwhelmed. I just didn't see it coming!
In summary, it's a great movie for all you sci-fi and shoot 'em up fans from ages 10 to 100. A different perspective on humans versus aliens with a "punch to the gut" ending.
I give it two-and-a-half chickens out of three.



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NOTICE

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Restriction on permits issued under the Highway Traffic Act and County By-Law #2216:

As outlined in the Highway Traffic Act and County of Haliburton By-Law #2216, reduced loading will be in effect in the County of Haliburton effective 12:01 a.m. on March 1, 2014.

The actual date of reduced load limit enforcement will be in effect when and where signs are posted. All annual and project permits for moving of heavy vehicle loads, objects or structures, in excess of limits set out in the Act and the By-Law, unless otherwise specified, are not valid on any County Roads during the Reduced Loads Period.

Reduced load limits will be in effect where and when signs are posted.

WHEN SIGNS ARE POSTED, THE FOLLOWING ROADS WILL HAVE A REDUCED LOAD LIMIT FOR THEIR ENTIRE LENGTH:

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On and after March 1st, check the County of Haliburton website www.haliburtoncounty.ca under "Notices" to see when reduced load limits are in effect and when they are lifted.

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF A PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that Municipality of Highlands East has prepared a complete application to amend Municipal Zoning By-law 2005-29. The purpose of the rezoning is to amend the Municipality's Comprehensive Zoning By-law to define medical marijuana facilities so the Municipality is able to regulate and control the establishment of new medical marijuana facilities.

AND PURSUANT to Section 34 (10) of the Planning Act, the file is available for review at the Municipal Office. Please contact the Municipal Clerk to arrange to review this file.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING WITH COUNCIL

TAKE NOTICE that the Council for The Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East will be holding a public meeting under Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P. 13 as amended, to allow the public to comment on the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment. The public meeting is being held for the application described below to enable interested members of the public to understand and comment on the Zoning By-law Amendment, the purpose of which is to add a land use definition to define facilities that legally produce medical marijuana and to define such facilities as a specific type of regulated land use in the Zoning By-law for the Municipality of Highlands East.

DATE AND LOCATION OF PUBLIC MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 25th, 2014
Time: 1:00 pm
Location: Municipality of Highlands East Municipal Office (Council Chambers)

DETAILS OF THE ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

The purpose of the proposed by-law is to amend the Restricted Area (Zoning) By-Law No. 2005-29 as amended to establish a definition for "medical marijuana facilities" in the Municipality's Zoning By-law. The addition of this new definition will allow the Municipality to control the establishment of new medical marijuana facilities in the event such a proposal was brought forward in the Municipality. Information relating to this application is available at the Municipality of Highlands East Municipal Office for public review during regular office hours.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND MAP OF LAND SUBJECT TO THE APPLICATION

This amendment does not relate to specific lands and therefore a key map has not been provided. The purpose of this meeting is to ensure that sufficient information is made available to enable the public to generally understand the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment. Any person who attends the meeting shall be afforded an opportunity to make representations in respect of the proposed amendment. If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East in respect to the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, you must submit a written request (with forwarding addresses) to the Clerk of the Municipality of Highlands East at 2249 Loop Road, Wilberforce, Ontario, K0L 3C0 fax (705) 448-2532. If a person or public body files an appeal of a decision of the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East, as the approval authority in respect of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, but does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to Council before the proposed amendment is approved or refused, the Ontario Municipal Board may dismiss all or part of the appeal. Further information regarding the proposed amendment is available to the public for inspection at the Municipality of Highlands East Municipal Office on Monday to Friday, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Irene Cook, Clerk, Municipality of Highlands East

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of Jean Marie Shelly (nee Patterson)

Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Wednesday, February 19, 2014 at the age of 61.

Beloved wife of Leonard Shelly of Pine Springs and predeceased by her first husband James Peddle (1994). Loving mother of Crystal Misener, and grandma of Matthew, and Jennifer Misener all of London. Dear step-mother of Kim Shelly, Rene Shelly, Lenny Shelly, Patrick Chevreleer all of Niagara Falls and Amber Smith of Tillsonburg. Dear sister of Keith (Mary) Patterson of Tillsonburg, Jim (Janice) Patterson of Tillsonburg and Ray (deceased) (Shirley) Patterson of Brownsville. Fondly remembered by her nieces, nephews, family and friends.

In accordance to Jean's wishes, cremation has taken place.

Private Family Arrangements

Memorial Donations to the Extensicare Proud Pioneers, Haliburton would be appreciated and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427 Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

Gordon A.
Monk
Funeral Home Ltd.
& Pre-Planning Centre
127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427,
Minden, ON K0M 2K0
www.gordonamonkfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory of Grant Montgomery of Halls Lake

Passed away peacefully after a brief illness at the Haliburton Hospital on Wednesday, February 19, 2014 in his 87th year.

Dearly beloved husband of the late Elsie (2001). Loving father of Don, Doug (Carol), Tom (Angie), Bob (Sandra), Cathy (Brad Griffin). Cherished grandfather of Jason, Jennifer, Ashley, Jeffrey, Gary, Cody, Caitlyn, Kassie, Jill and Matthew, great grandfather of Jordyn and Chase. Dear brother of Alan (Joy). Fondly remembered by his nieces, nephews, family and friends.

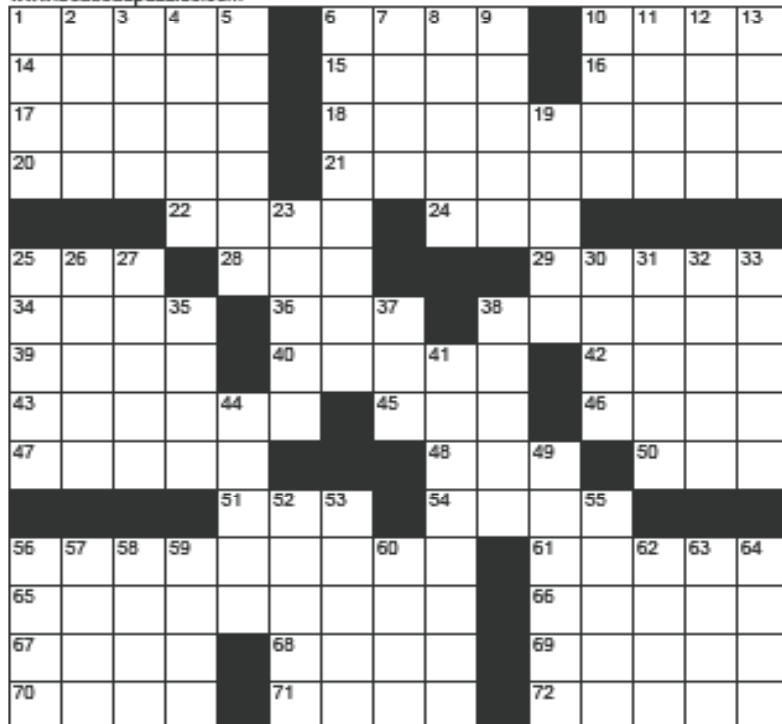
Friends were invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 on Friday, February 21, 2014 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm and on Saturday, February 22, 2014 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of the Funeral Service at 1:00 pm. Spring Interment at St. Stephens Cemetery, Boshkung.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family.

Gordon A.
Monk
Funeral Home Ltd.
& Pre-Planning Centre
127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427,
Minden, ON K0M 2K0
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Highlander events

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ACROSS

1. Sleeved garment
6. Poet ____ Pound
10. Charity
14. "M*A*S*H" locale
15. Not ever, in verse
16. Ark builder
17. Not appropriate
18. Cease-fire
20. Doctrine
21. Wetted
22. Advertising symbol
24. Golf peg
25. Ike's inits.
28. Paddle's kin
29. School assignment
34. Cut grain
36. Luau necklace
38. Stir up
39. Other
40. Decorate
42. China's continent
43. Pilfers
45. Opposite of pos.
46. Flat cushions
47. Mexican sauce
48. Malt beverage
50. Fishing snare
51. Cat's foot
54. Close tightly
56. Invaluable
61. Colander
65. Get even
66. Calcutta's country
67. Lincoln and Vigoda
68. Nights before holidays
69. Decree
70. Papa's partner
71. "Broadcast ____"
72. Evaluates

DOWN

1. Short play
2. Whetstone
3. Tehran's land
4. Drive off
5. Skin design
6. Captivated
7. Zilch
8. Send payment
9. Get up
10. Opening bet
11. Cut of beef
12. Nutmeglike spice
13. Lose fur
19. Navigate
23. Parties
25. Lady's garment
26. Letter after gamma
27. Artist's tripod
30. Detergent
31. Actress ____ Sarandon
32. Stage whisper
33. Bread ingredient
35. Pod vegetables
37. Charged particle
38. Geometric corner
41. Evaluate again
44. Coat part
49. Not as hard
52. Foreigner
53. Make cloth
55. Actress ____ Blair
56. British baby buggy
57. Country singer ____ McEntire
58. Detail
59. Pedro's house
60. Brood
62. Rewrite text
63. Bad habit
64. Chows down

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2014 EVENTS

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>Seniors standing balance exercise class – Minden Hospital, every Thursday, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Haliburton Legion Ladies Auxiliary meeting – Haliburton Legion, 1 p.m.</p>	<p>Photographer Dr. Ron Goodlin presentation – Minden Community Centre, 7 p.m. \$5 at the door.</p>	<p>12th Annual Haliburton Highlands Dog Sled Derby begins today at the Pinestone Resort.</p>	<p>Haliburton Highlands Dog Sled Derby continues.</p>
27	28	1	2
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
	<p>Seniors standing balance exercise class – Minden Hospital, every Tuesday, 10 a.m.</p> <p>Volunteer income tax program – Haliburton Legion, 9:30-2 p.m. Every Tuesday until April 22.</p>	<p>Volunteer income tax program – Wilberforce Legion, 2-3:20 p.m. Every Wednesday until April 23.</p> <p>WSIB information session – Lloyd Watson Centre, 9-11:30 a.m.</p>	
4	5	6	
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
	<p>Country music jamboree – S.G. Nesbitt Arena, 1-5 p.m.</p> <p>Haliburton Legion Ladies Auxiliary breakfast – Haliburton Legion, 9:30-1 p.m.</p>	<p>Country music jamboree – S.G. Nesbitt Arena, 1-5 p.m.</p>	<p>Vintage book & comic pendant – The Art Hive, 9:30-noon.</p> <p>Workshop Suda – The Art Hive, 1-3:30 p.m.</p>
7	8	9	10

WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUR LEGION FEB 27 - MAR 5, 2014

Haliburton Branch (705-457-2571)
General meeting, 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Ladies Auxiliary, last Thursday, 1 p.m.
Meat draw, Friday, 4:30-6:30 p.m. \$2/draw.
50/50 draw, Saturday, 4 p.m.
Breakfast, 2nd and 4th Sunday, 9:30-1 p.m.
Bid Euchre, Wednesday, 1 p.m.
Bingo, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Minden Branch (705-296-4541)
Lunch menu, Monday – Friday, 12-2 p.m.
Cribbage, Saturday, 1-3 p.m.
Seniors "B-d" Euchre, Tuesday, 1 p.m.
Meat Draw, Wednesday, lunchtime.
Ladies darts, Thursday, 1 p.m.
Euchre, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Fish/Wings & Chips, Friday, 5-7 p.m.
Mixed darts, Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Wilberforce Branch (705-448-2221)
Pool, Friday, 1:30 p.m.
Spaghetti dinner, Friday, 5-7 p.m.
Jam session, Friday, 7 p.m. Everyone welcome!
Ken McFarlane Memorial Lake Trout Derby, Saturday.
Meat draw, Saturday, 2 p.m.
Pancake & sausage, Sunday, 8-11 a.m.
Bid euchre, Monday, 7 p.m.
Fun darts, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

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3	1	5	6	8	4	9	2	7

Highlander events



Photo by Mark Arike

Left: Steve McLean, owner of Canadian Tire in Minden, presents Dale Bull with the Customer First Award. Top: Bill Gliddon, right, was recognized as the Highlander of the Year for his countless contributions to the community. Bottom: Ian Pay & The Moon Tones perform during the cocktail hour at the 8th annual Business and Community Achievement Awards Gala.

Winners all around at Chamber gala

By Mark Arike
Staff Writer

The award winners weren't the only ones being recognized for their contributions to the community during the eighth annual Business and Community Achievement Awards, hosted by the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce. The sold out event was held at the Pinestone Resort on Feb. 22.

"To be nominated is an honour unto itself," said Chamber president Eric Thompson in his

opening remarks. "You do not have to be a finalist. If you're nominated, you're a winner." This year, the Chamber received a record-setting 107 nominations from the community. Numerous businesses, not-for-profits and individuals were up for awards, some in more than one category. A panel of anonymous judges narrowed down the nominees to three finalists for each of the nine award categories. A second round of judging then took place, with a final in-depth review and selection of award recipients. The Warden's Award was chosen

by current Haliburton County warden Dave Burton. The evening's festivities were emceed by Canoe FM personality Mike Jaycock, who cracked a number of jokes that locals could relate to. Chamber manager Rosemarie Jung called the gala the Chamber's grand event of the year. "It's important to us as the voice of business to recognize the excellence in our community," said Jung. This year's award winners were: Business

Achievement Award - Heat Line Corporation; Customer First Award - Dale Bull, TD Mortgage; Entrepreneur of the Year - Alan Gordon, Haliburton RPM; Innovation and Creativity Award - McBain Quarries; New Business Award - Canadian Tire; Not-for-Profit of the Year Award - Minden Food Bank; Skilled Trades and Industry Award - Chaulk Woodworking; Tourism and Hospitality - Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre; Warden's Award of the Year - Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association.



Photo by Mark Arike
Dave Harris and Cathy Moss sweep the rock at the 6th annual Curl for Care Bonspiel

Curlers raise \$3,500 for palliative care centre

By Mark Arike
Staff Writer

The sixth annual Curl for Care Bonspiel was yet again a sweeping success. The one-day event, which was held at the Haliburton Curling Club on Feb. 22, raised over \$3,500 for the new Haliburton Highlands Palliative Care Centre. A total of 64 curlers took part in the bonspiel, hosted by the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF). Over the past six years, the event has raised over \$22,000 for the Foundation and local health care facilities. Steve Todd, owner of Todd's Independent and HHHSF board member, has supported the bonspiel since its inception. When Todd joined the board six years ago, he discussed fundraising opportunities with executive

director Dale Walker. "It was very important to me that any event that I did run, I could donate 100 per cent of the funds collected, and also create fun and excitement for anyone who participated," he said, adding that with the support of the Haliburton Curling Club, "we have been able to achieve this goal." In addition to the curling action, participants enjoyed a buffet dinner, raffle and prize presentations. According to Walker, construction of the palliative care centre will commence this summer at the Haliburton Hospital site. **Game winners** The Bob MacNaull Rink of Ann MacNaull, Lynne Bartlett and Terry Lawrence The Bob Johnston Rink of Candy Robinson, Ron and Karen Draper

Highlander life

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Ivan Earl won the \$500 jackpot and he bought his sheet at Haliburton Foodland. This was the Feb. 4 game.

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The voice of the Haliburton Highlands



EVENTS

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Girl by the Gull Small but vital town of opportunity



By Sue Tiffin

When my family moved to Minden, I was as devastated as if I had just dropped my ice cream on the ground. I despised the idea of leaving the home I had lived all 10 years of my life for a small town I had only visited during holidays.

It was probably the best move my parents could have made.

Because I grew up in Minden, I had the opportunity to, well, have opportunities that I wouldn't have had elsewhere. Australian teacher Mr. Ellis was in the last half of his exchange year with Mr. Pawluch, so Grade 5 opened my mind to travel so that I would inevitably care enough to travel myself. Mr. Poropat sent us out into the woods, away from the portable at Archie Stouffer, so that we could learn to appreciate nature, and I still do. The population was small enough then that even with my tendency to talk quickly enough to be barely understood, I was crowned Minden Carnival Queen. And I won, even with my still negligible dance skills that are now only witnessed after a few pints, the Dancer of the Day award at the Haliburton Highland Games.

When Mr. Brohman suggested that I become a writer, the HHSS Co-Op program enabled me to start reporting alongside Martha Perkins, and later I was able to write for Jack Brezina. HHSS didn't have a school newspaper, so we created one. These adventures gave me the experience I needed to work at the Barrie Advance during university, and to get into the journalism program at that university – Ryerson – in the first place.

After high school, so many of us graduates wanted to leave town and live in the city, and yet, while living abroad and thinking of Canada, Toronto rarely crossed my mind. It was Minden that I talked about with my expatriate friends.

It was Minden that caused my students in Korea to marvel at photos of moose and deer and the amount of space in backyards (after it was explained what a backyard was, of course). I wish I could adequately explain with words what their faces looked like when they learned about a lack of light pollution to see so many stars and when they heard the call of a loon, albeit recorded, for the very first time. Or what my own face looked like when I started to appreciate such treasures from so far away.

Coming back after living in Toronto and Seoul for 15 years has brought such extreme reverse culture shock, that it is actually more overwhelming for my Kincardine-born husband and I to adjust to small town Ontario life again than it was for us to become accustomed to eating kimchi for breakfast and bowing to strangers.

I can't imagine how our Asian-born dog feels now that everyone speaks English to her.

Minden – I mean, Minden Hills – has changed. I don't recognize more people than I do, there are two (much more than none) local radio stations, and there is a very good chance that I might never believe there's such thing as a Minden latte ... and IN Minden, no less.

But some things have stayed the same. The cow on Kawartha Dairy – my first place of employment – still stands proudly. The river still beckons to be floated on. People still greet the new stranger with familiarity.

This place became home when I was 10 years old, and for the time being, it's home again. I'm grateful for the opportunity to be back, and more than happy to write about those who are lucky enough to have the opportunity to live here.

TUESDAYS

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Spaghetti and Meatballs
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Wild Mushroom Fusilli

OR

Pasta Package: choice of the above pasta, green salad, garlic bread and a glass of house wine for \$19.99 per person.

This offer can not be combined with any other promotions or offers. Gluten Free Pasta Available.

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What's on



File photo

Jacob Blais takes off from the starting line on Feb. 23, 2013 at the Pinestone Resort as part of the Haliburton Dog Sled Derby four-dog race.

Sled dogs ready to race

By Sue Tiffin
Staff Writer

This weekend is the one that packs of dogs and their mushers have been waiting for – the 12th annual Haliburton Highlands Dogsled Derby.

Last year, about 80 teams registered for the annual sled dog races and organizers expect a similar turnout all day Saturday and Sunday for the much-anticipated event at the Pinestone Resort.

Racers come from throughout Ontario to be part of Haliburton's derby, and have a chance to compete for a \$6,000 purse, which is advertised on the Dogsled Derby website as being the biggest dogsled derby purse in Ontario.

"It's a big draw," said Sue Yallop, staff member of Winterdance Dogsled Tours. "I think anything that brings tourism to this community is a plus. This is yet another event that raises the profile of Haliburton."

The local dogsled tour company organizes the annual event. Yallop said that spectators are welcome to watch the races at Pinestone Resort, which provides warmth and treats for those ready to take a break from the snow. She said the races can be watched at the finish line, or spectators can take a walk behind the resort to watch the dogs as they race along the trail at speeds of up to 30 km/h. Yallop also recommended that spectators visit the dogs and interact with the mushers in the dog pen area, but suggested they avoid petting the dogs without permission from their mushers.

"The dogs are there to work," said Yallop, whose own dogs like being pet only after their races are finished. "They're hyped up and they're ready to race."

The Dogsled Derby is still open to participants, and volunteers are always welcome to help the races go smoothly. For more information, contact Barb at Winterdance at 705-457-5281.

2014 Winter Folk Camp
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SATURDAY MARCH 1 ~ 8:00PM
Teresa Doyle Tim Chaisson October Browne
SUNDAY MARCH 2 ~ 8:00PM
Catherine MacLellan Chris Gauthier Eve Goldberg Tom Leighton
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